



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

January 8, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:
RECOMMENDATION TO GIVE DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT AND ADMINISTER THE
TARGETED ASSISTANCE OLDER REFUGEE DISCRETIONARY GRANT
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(4 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to accept and administer the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2007 Older Refugee Discretionary Grant through Los Angeles County's Refugee Employment Program (REP). The Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement has awarded the State of California \$263,125 in funding under the FFY 2007 Older Refugee Discretionary Grant of which Los Angeles County's allocation is \$99,229.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS to accept and administer future Older Refugee Discretionary Grant awards intended to further benefit and/or enhance services for refugees residing in Los Angeles County beginning FFY 2007 and ending FFY 2011. The approval of the Chief Executive Office (CEO) will be obtained prior to accepting such grants and the Director of DPSS will notify the CEO in writing within ten business days of acceptance of such funds.
3. Approve an appropriation adjustment (attached) in the amount of \$99,000 to increase the appropriation and revenue of the REP. This amount reflects the Older Refugee Discretionary Grant award for the FFY 2007. There is no net County cost.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

DPSS is requesting this delegated authority due to the Board requirement that DPSS request Board approval for the acceptance of grant awards.

Delegated authority will allow the Director of DPSS to administer the FFY 2007 Older Refugee Discretionary Grant funds, through the REP, for services for senior refugees (over the age of 60) receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in Los Angeles County. The purpose of the 2007 Discretionary Grant for Older Refugees is to provide: 1) naturalization and citizenship services to the refugee population receiving SSI who have reached the age of 60 years or older; and 2) establish and/or expand a working relationship with the local community Area Agencies on Aging to ensure all older refugees in the community will be linked to mainstream aging services in their communities.

Subject to the ongoing availability of Federal funding and satisfactory performance, Los Angeles County will receive the Discretionary Grant for Older Refugees for a five-year period starting with FFY 2007 and ending in FFY 2011. The grant became effective October 2007; therefore, grant funds will be immediately available to expend upon your Board's approval. As there is no restriction that requires funds be expended in the FFY received, grant funds received each FFY may be expended through September 2012, the end of FFY 2011. However, in the event that funding is discontinued, any unspent funds from prior FFYs would need to be returned to the ORR.

DPSS, through its REP, will use the 2007 Discretionary Grant for Older Refugees to administer the Naturalization and Citizenship Services Program to the refugee population who have reached the age of 60 years or older and are receiving SSI. The grant will also be utilized to initiate a countywide outreach campaign to inform older refugees of the availability of aging services.

The Naturalization and Citizenship Services will be a referral-based program targeted at adult refugees, 60 years or older, who have lost or are at risk of losing current or future eligibility for SSI and other Federal benefits due to their immigration status. This funding will allow Los Angeles County to link program eligible refugees to citizenship preparation classes at a local community college, vocational/adult school or provider agencies with the appropriate accreditations and credentials. These classes will prepare participants for the history examination and the interview administered by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. Naturalization and Citizenship Services have been incorporated into the redesign of the REP.

DPSS expects to link and refer all the participants identified through its outreach to naturalization and citizenship services. DPSS expects to have a high percentage of participants who access these services become United States citizens. DPSS will use the grant funds to outreach to the refugee community to identify program eligible participants. Grant funds will also be used to compensate REP contractors for referring program eligible participants to citizenship and naturalization services.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommendations are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan. Goal #1: Service Excellence, Strategy #2: Design seamless service delivery systems, and Goal #5: Improve Children and Families Well-Being, Strategy #2: Enhance the ability of families to achieve self-sufficiency and economic well-being.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Los Angeles County's grant allocation of \$99,229 consists of \$14,884 (15 percent) for administrative cost and the balance of \$84,345 will fund DPSS' outreach efforts to the eligible refugee population and compensate REP contractors for participant referrals to naturalization and citizenship services.

Supportive services will be funded through Refugee Social Service (RSS) and Targeted Assistance (TA) funding. Future funding opportunities will serve to enhance existing RSS and TA funding. There is no net County cost associated with this program as it is fully funded by the Federal Older Refugees Discretionary Grant.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This grant will be used for outreach to more than 10,000 elderly refugees receiving SSI, age 60 or older, who are in danger of losing their SSI and other Federal benefits because of failing to become United States citizens. SSI recipients are required to become United States citizens within seven years of receiving SSI benefits.

Honorable Board of Supervisors
January 8, 2008
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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Approval of the delegated authority will allow DPSS to expand current refugee services to assist senior refugees receiving SSI, age 60 or older, who may be at risk of losing eligibility for SSI due to their non-citizenship status.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:SRH:SAS
GP:JB:ap

Attachment

c: County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Department of Public Social Services

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

DEPT'S. No. 140

November 20, 2007

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER.

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. WILL YOU PLEASE REPORT AS TO ACCOUNTING AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.

ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR

FY 2007-08
4-Votes

Sources

Public Social Services-Assistance-REP
A01-SS-90-8901-26300-26475
FED-AID PUB ASSISTANCE PROGRAM \$84,000
INCREASE REVENUE

Public Social Services
A01-SS-90-8901-25900
FED-AID PUB ASSISTANCE PROGRAM \$15,000
INCREASE REVENUE

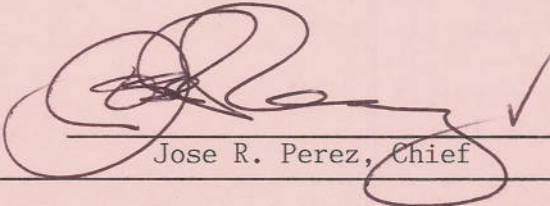
Uses

Public Social Services-Assistance-REP
A01-SS-2000-26300-26475
SERVICES AND SUPPLIES \$84,000
INCREASE APPROPRIATION

Public Social Services-~~REP~~
A01-SS-1000-25900
SALARIES & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS \$15,000
INCREASE APPROPRIATION

JUSTIFICATION:

TO REFLECT NEW APPROPRIATION AND REVENUE OF \$99,000 FROM THE OLDER REFUGEE DISCRETIONARY GRANT UNDER THE FEDERAL OFFICE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.



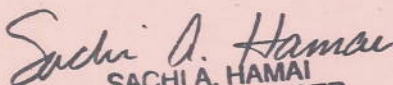
Jose R. Perez, Chief

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#22

JAN 08 2008


SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REFERRED TO THE CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR—

ACTION

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVED AS REQUESTED

AS REVISED

APPROVED (AS REVISED):
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

BY

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER BY

No. 055

Nov 8 2007

#22

JAN 08 2008

SEND 6 COPIES TO THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER